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obtained from another gall and differed, as males usually do, in size and color from the females.

Another, perhaps more serious objection, may be made. If the males of the genera, hitherto thought agamous, exist, how does it happen that Hartig, with the abundant material in his possession, did not have a single one of them; it seems that if he had had but *one*, he would not have pronounced those genera agamous. To this I answer that he may have possessed males of this description, but have located them in other genera. Hartig's classification, in his paper on *Cynipidæ*, is a mere outline, as he intended to publish some time a more detailed monograph. This not having been done, the definitions of his genera, as they stand now, are altogether insufficient, and in most cases I have been unable to make them out. Still I can easily conceive that he might have placed the female of *C. confluens* in one genus, and what I take to be its male in another.

However, be it as it may, the only material point in the present case is to know whether the male which I reared from the spindle-shaped gall is specifically identical with the females obtained from the common oak-apple.

My belief of their identity is based upon their exact similitude in everything except those characters which usually distinguish the males from the females, (as size, color, length and number of joints of the antennæ). This similitude alone would perhaps not be conclusive, if the characters of the species, as already remarked, were not rather uncommon and sufficiently striking to facilitate its immediate recognition. The thorax is deeply cribose, two longitudinal, parallel, somewhat indistinct carinæ begin at the collar, and stop before the middle of the thorax; two other carinæ converge towards the scutellum; the scutellum is also deeply sculptured and has two foveæ at the basis; the wings are conspicuous by a brown spot near the areolet and by some peculiarities of the neurulation; the subcostal, for instance, becomes obsolete just before reaching the anterior margin, the veins surrounding the areolet have a peculiar shape, etc. All of which are exactly reproduced in the male and female specimens in question. The male has 15, the female 13-jointed antennæ; the former is smaller, more slender and much darker in color than the latter.

The supposition of the identity of these insects is finally strengthened by their galls occurring on the same tree, the red oak, having been found in the same localities, and the perfect insect being hatched at the same season.

A glance at the specimens would, I have no doubt, convince any entomologist, conversant with the *Cynipidæ*, of their specific identity. Not being able, however, to convey a demonstration of the same force by means of a mere description, and being sufficiently aware that a fact so novel and so extraordinary as the production, by the sting of the same insect, of two altogether different forms of galls, according to the sex of the egg or of the future larva, cannot be admitted in science without further inquiry, I offer the above statement as a mere suggestion for future research.

July 9th.

Vice President VAUX in the Chair.

Twelve members present.

The following papers were presented for publication:

"Descriptions of certain species of Diurnal Lepidoptera, found within the limits of the United States and of British America," by Wm. H. Edwards.

"On *Cyprinus corporalis*, Mitchell, referring it to the genus *Semotilus*, Rafinesque," by Charles C. Abbott.

[July,